

In the claims:

Please cancel claim 68 without prejudice to applicants' right to pursue the subject matter thereof in a continuing application.

Please amend the claims as follows:

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58. (amended): A method for predicting pregnancy outcome in a subject comprising the steps of:
- (a) (i) contacting a first portion of a sample from the subject with a first antibody which binds to the EPMI-hCG that is recognized by the B152 antibody deposited with the American Type Culture Collection under Designation No. HB-12467;
  - (ii) contacting the sample resulting from (a)(i) with a second, labeled antibody which binds to EPMI-hCG simultaneously with the first antibody;
  - (iii) measuring the amount of any bound second antibody in the sample, so as to thereby determine the amount of EPMI-hCG in the sample;
  - (b) (i) contacting a second portion of the sample from the subject with a third antibody which binds to intact non-nicked hCG;
  - (ii) contacting the sample resulting from (b)(i) with a fourth, labeled antibody which binds to intact non-nicked hCG simultaneously with the third antibody;

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*cons*
- (iii) measuring the amount of bound fourth antibody in the sample, so as to thereby determine the amount of intact hCG in the sample, with the proviso that steps (a) and (b) can be performed in any order; and
- (c) determining the ratio of the EPMI-hCG to intact hCG in the sample from the measurements performed in (a)(iii) and (b)(iii), wherein a ratio greater than 1 indicates a positive pregnancy outcome and a ratio less than 1 indicates a negative pregnancy outcome.

59. (amended): The method of claim 58, wherein each of the first and third antibodies is bound to a solid support.

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62. (amended): A method for determining the amount of EPMI-hCG present in a sample comprising the steps of:

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- (i) contacting a sample from the subject with a first antibody which binds to the EPMI-hCG that is recognized by the B152 antibody deposited with the American Type Culture Collection under Designation No. HB-12467;
- (ii) contacting the resulting sample with a second, labeled antibody which binds to EPMI-hCG simultaneously with the first antibody; and
- (iii) measuring the amount of bound second antibody in the sample, so as to thereby determine the amount of EPMI-hCG in the sample.

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63. (amended): A diagnostic kit for predicting pregnancy outcome in a subject comprising:

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- (a) a first antibody, bound to a solid support, which binds to the EPMI-hCG that is recognized by the B152 antibody deposited with the American Type Culture Collection under Designation No. HB-12467;
  - (b) a second, labeled antibody which binds to EPMI-hCG simultaneously with the antibody of (a);
  - (c) a third antibody, bound to a solid support, which binds to intact non-nicked hCG;
  - (d) a fourth, labeled antibody which binds to intact non-nicked hCG simultaneously with the antibody of (c); and
  - (e) reagents permitting binding between the antibodies and their respective antigens in a sample from the subject.
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67. (amended) An antibody which binds to the EPMI-hCG that is recognized by the B152 antibody deposited with the American Type Culture Collection under Designation No. HB-12467.

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